

Application No. 10/749,976
Amendment dated March 6, 2007
Response to Office Action dated Dec. 7, 2006

Amendments of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Cancel claim 2.

Amend claims 1, 3, and 9-12 as shown below.

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for manually uncoupling a V-belt drive from an active power source, comprising: a tapered member connected to said active power source for engaging in holding relationship a pulley of said V-belt drive; a means for disengaging said tapered member from said V-belt drive when said power source is active, said disengaging means comprising, a retractor member attached to said pulley of said V-belt drive, a toggle linkage for causing said retractor member to disengage said tapered member from said V-belt drive, said toggle linkage including a first pair of diverging toggle links and a second pair of crossing toggle links having end portions pivotally connected to end portions of said first pair of toggle links, a sleeve for pivotally mounting said second pair of toggle links for rotation about an axis passing through an intersection of said second pair of toggle links, said axis having a fixed relationship to said tapered member; and a means push rod for operating said toggle linkage to cause said retractor member to disengage said tapered member from said V-belt drive.

2. (cancelled) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said means for operating said toggle linkage to cause said retractor member to disengage said tapered member from said V-belt drive.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 1 further comprising a spring for engaging said tapered member with said ~~tapered aperture of said~~ V-belt drive.

4. (original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said tapered member has a holding taper of about 3 degrees.

5. (original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said tapered member is made of aluminum.

6. (original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said toggle linkage has a co-linear relationship with said tapered member.

7. (original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said power source is an electric motor.

8. (original) The apparatus recited in claim 1 wherein said sleeve has a slot for receiving said toggle linkage.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 2 1 wherein said push rod is slidably mounted for movement in said sleeve.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 2 1 wherein said push rod extends outwardly from said coupling apparatus to a spherical distal end knob portion.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for manually uncoupling a V-belt drive from an active power source, comprising: a tapered member connected to said active power source for engaging in holding relationship a pulley of said V-belt drive; a means for disengaging said tapered member from said pulley of said V-belt drive when said power source is active, said disengaging means comprising, a retractor member attached to said pulley; a sleeve slidably mounted in said apparatus for receiving a toggle linkage having end portions for displacing said retractor member to disengage said pulley from said tapered member; ~~a sleeve slidably mounted in said apparatus for receiving a toggle linkage; and a toggle linkage pivotally mounted in said sleeve,~~ said toggle linkage

including a first pair of diverging toggle links and a second pair of crossing toggle links pivotally connected to end portions of said first pair of toggle links, for rotation about an axis passing through said sleeve and an intersection of said second pair of toggle links, said axis having a fixed relationship to said tapered member; said second pair of toggle links having end portions for disengaging said pulley with said tapered member by displacing said retractor member relative to said tapered member.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus for manually uncoupling a V-belt drive from an active power source, comprising: a tapered member connected to said active power source for engaging in holding relationship a pulley of said V-belt drive; a means for disengaging said tapered member from said pulley of said V-belt drive when said power source is active, said disengaging means comprising, a retractor member attached to said pulley, a sleeve slidably mounted in said apparatus having a slot for receiving a toggle linkage; a toggle linkage pivotally mounted in said sleeve, said toggle linkage including a first pair of diverging toggle links and a second pair of crossing toggle links pivotally attached to said first pair of toggle links, said second pair of links having distal end portions for displacing said retractor member relative to said tapered member to disengage said pulley from said tapered member; and a push rod for actuating said toggle linkage to

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disengage said tapered member of said active power source from said pulley.